

BRENTWOOD CONSERVATION COMMISSION Meeting of

May 13, 2009

Members In attendance: Jody Kaufman, Doug Cowie, Heather Gilbert, Ray Jones, Emily Schmalzer, Heather Dudley-Tatman, and Rob Wofchuck, chair

Alternates in attendance: Victor Schmalzer, Reid Bunker

Also, David Menter, Selectmen's Representative

1. Meeting convened the meeting at 7:07.
2. Cowie moved to elect Wofchuck as Chairman. E. Schmalzer seconded. Wofchuck elected as Chairman by voice vote.
3. The March minutes were reviewed. Jones moved to accept them and Cowie seconded. By voice vote the minutes were approved.
4. Wofchuck reviewed annual budget.
 - a. Commission discussed need for digital camera and GPS unit to complete easement monitoring. Cowie will research camera and GPS models and pricing.
 - b. Questions were asked on the nature of the contract with the Southeast Land Trust (SELTNH) and Wofchuck will look into further.
5. Grant from the Piscataqua Region Estuaries Partnership (PREP) was approved. The goal of the grant is to review the storm water management practices and update town ordinances as appropriate. The kick off meeting is at the Planning Board meeting on May 21st at 7:00PM. Wofchuck has met with Derek from PREP. VHB was selected from 7 consultants approved with PREP. Wofchuck as interviewed Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. (VHB) and received references. The planning Board will be heavily involved with this project.
6. Kaufman, Gilbert and Wofchuck met with SELTNH to explore and understand relationship. SELTNH is available to assist the commission on activities such as easement monitoring, open space activities, and grants. They charge \$35 per hour. There are several pending grants that the SELTNH will provide update/outreach to current pending grant applicants.
7. Wofchuck asked for feedback on open space initiative. Questions posed included do we need to review objectives and what can SELTNH do to support us? Kaufman to call Brian at SELTNH to get more details on nature of relationship regarding the open space initiative.
8. The commission has over 20 easements which require monitoring. Wofchuck poses the question should we monitor all of the easements or pay SELTNH to monitor a portion of them? Commission decides first objective is to update the matrix. Gilbert and Wofchuck will update matrix. Wofchuck to look into easement monitoring training for those interested.
9. Wofchuck has been made aware that the Rockingham Planning Commission (RPC) may have a grant available sometime in June to pay for ½ of the cost to prepare and open space chapter for the Master Plan. Wofchuck to confirm that chapter does not currently exist and to follow-up on details of application requirements.
10. Memo from Planning Board asking if commission has capital improvement projects planned in excess of \$10,000. In the past this has included Brentwood's ½ of the

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prime wetland survey. After much discussion the commission decided that there are no current plans of this type.

11. Wofchuck received letter from New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) accepting the Prime Wetlands Designation.
12. ERLAC
 - a. Exeter River Geomorphic Study. This study only included a portion of the river in Brentwood. They are trying to raise an additional \$4,000 to increase the study area. The study is very comprehensive look at the Exeter River watershed with the goal of identifying areas that need improvement.
 - b. Open spot for another representative (Currently Ray Jones and Patrick Seekamp)
13. NE Dragway – NH DES has mandated that the water quality testing be included. RPC has agreed to hold easement. There are some concerns on draft easement language. V. Schmalzer to follow-up with Mary Currier.
14. At 9:04PM, Gilbert moved to adjourn, Cowie seconded and the motion carried. The next meeting will be on June 10, 2009.